Province of Zambales bids fair to develop into the world's largest single deposit of that mineral and is indicative of a chromite-bearing belt extending through almost the entire length of the Islands.

Of all Philippine industries, gold-mining appears to have the best chance to become a basic industry and to furnish business stability. This does not mean that the Philippines can ever hope to displace the Witwatersrand region of South Africa as the chief gold-producing country in the world. That is not essential. But whatever happens to sugar, and copra, and hemp, someone will covet Philippine gold.

As I write, the workers of the tobacco factories of Manila are on strike, and an effort is being made to declare a general strike. But the strike is not bound to succeed. Organization of the labor element is lacking. Public opinion is not with the strikers. Communists are endeavoring to foment trouble.

The prejudice against Filipino labor which capital early displayed has largely disappeared. Employers now concede that the Filipinos do their jobs satisfactorily. In the Hawaiian Islands Filipinos constitute seventy per cent of the field labor and are considered a sturdy group of workers.

Much of the result obtainable from the use of Filipino laborers depends on how they are handled. Treated fairly and firmly they cause no trouble. Treated with too much intimacy or roughly, the Filipino either becomes sullen or quits.

The Philippine Government has endeavored to be just to the proletariat. A separate Department of Labor affords full protection to laborers' interests. An eight-

hour labor law, a workmen's compensation law, and various other laws have been enacted to give labor its due. The result is that coolie

[8] **Section read by Mr. Jose Figueras, Inspector General of Labor. See Ramon Torres, *A Review of Labor Developments in tfie Philippines* (1934).**